

IT'S NOT JUST FOR BOYS



Rachel (back row, fourth from the left) and her team, The Lions

**NEWS CREW
REPORTER**

I go to Buile Hill High School, and my P.E. teacher showed me some details about the trials for the Danone Nations Cup, which is a massive international football tournament for 10 to 12 year olds.

The French captain, Zinedine Zidane, will be presenting the trophy to the winners at the finals in France in September.

I wasn't feeling positive about going, but I registered on the website and went to a session in Manchester. When I got there, I thought, "This is all boys," so I asked somebody about it and they told me I was in the right place. There were still only three girls there, including me, but I really enjoyed it, and was given the fantastic news that I was going to be invited to the UK finals in London.

By Rachel Davies, 12

I will never forget the two days in London, they were fantastic. We all watched England against Paraguay on TV, and after that we had a great training session. I was put in a team called The Lions, and we had our own kit with our names printed on the back. My team coaches were Emile and Marvin, and they made us all feel relaxed and gave us loads of encouragement. Everything was so well organised with a brilliant atmosphere, and the coaches and all of the staff were so friendly.

The Lions went on to win, and I thought, "Gosh, we're off to France. I can't believe it!" Getting my medal from former Arsenal and England captain Tony Adams only added to a fantastic time, and I've also made lots of new friends from all over the country.

